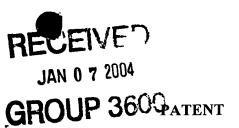


Attorney Docket No. 003184/0006 Customer No. 31013



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Sheryl Behar et al.

Serial No.

09/469,993

Examiner

J.L. Young

Filed

December 22, 1999

Art Unit

3622

For

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AWARDING REBATES BASED ON CREDIT CARD USAGE TO CREDIT CARD

HOLDERS

December 31, 2003

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 3, 2003

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in reply to the Office Action mailed July 3, 2003 finally rejecting claims 1-3, 8, 10-17, 19-22, 27, 29-36 and 38 in Serial No. 09/469,993, for which a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 is being filed concurrently herewith. This Reply is being submitted within the third month after the shortened statutory period set for response in the final Office Action. A separate Petition and Fee for a three-month extension of time are being submitted herewith. With the extension, the deadline for response is reset to expire on January 3, 2004.

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 216106512US

Date of Deposit: December 31, 2003

ichard Moss

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Mail Stop RCE

(Typed or Printed Name)

- 1 -

AMENDMENTS

Amend the application, without prejudice, as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this Response.